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Lodge Appoints Pacification Aide In South Viet Nam

SAIGON, Viet Nam (AP)—U.S. Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge formally announced the appointment yesterday of Edward G. Lansdale, a counter-insurance agency expert, to head a mission seeking to revive the pacification program in South Viet Nam.

Lansdale, a retired Air Force officer who is Lodge's special assistant, was named chairman of the U.S. mission liaison group to the secretary-general of the Central Rural Construction Council.

The council's function is to establish a basic policy to help pacify the countryside and win support of the peasants in the struggle against the Viet Cong.

The council, formed two months ago, is presided over by Prime Minister Nguyen Cao Ky. Nguyen Tat Ung is its secretary-general.

Lansdale, who arrived in the country Sunday, will head a team of eight to 10 aides, some of whom served before in intelligence roles in South Viet Nam.

Lansdale established a reputation in the field of psychological warfare as an adviser to the Philippine government in its victory over that nation's Communist movement in the early 1950s.